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Labor market
information for
Flathead County

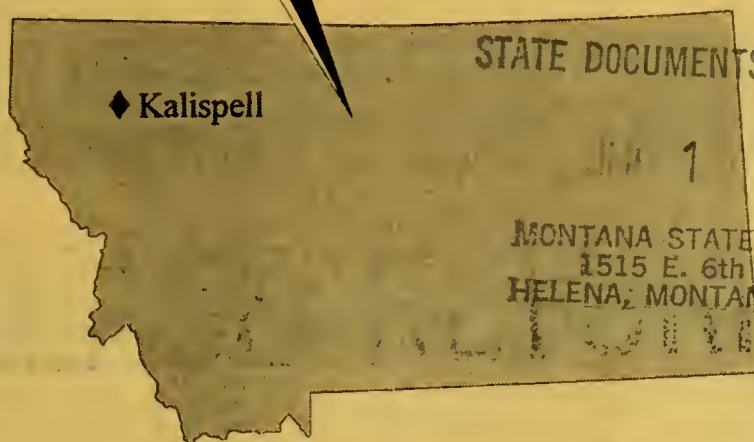
Labor and Industry Information for

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Flathead County



STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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Cities and Towns in Flathead County

Apgar	◆	Bigfork	◆	Columbia Falls	◆	Coram	◆	Creston
Essex	◆	Hungry Horse	◆	Kalispell	◆	Kila	◆	Lake McDonald
Lakeside	◆	Martin City	◆	Marion	◆	Olney	◆	Polebridge
		Somers	◆	West Glacier	◆	Whitefish		

The most current county-by-county information can be found in our quarterly publication *Employment and Labor Force Trends*. And most of our information is on the Internet at <http://jsd.dli.mt.gov/lmi/lmi.htm>. In addition, we'll do our best to provide information in accessible format, on request, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Provided by the Office of Research & Analysis
Montana Department of Labor & Industry
P. O. Box 1728, Helena, Montana 59624
Phone 406-444-2430/FAX 406-444-2638
Toll free within Montana 800-633-0229
Toll free outside Montana 800-541-3904
TDD 406-444-0532 or 800-354-8830

8/24/98

Flathead County

Located in northwestern Montana, Flathead County is Montana's fourth most populous with 59,218 residents, according to the 1990 Census.

Kalispell, the county seat, is the state's seventh largest city with a population of 11,917. The city is the trade center of northwest Montana and located at the junction of U.S. Highways 2 and 93. The area is renowned for its Flathead cherries and Christmas tree farms. It's also a gateway to Glacier National Park and located between the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Montana's largest, and the Flathead Indian Reservation.

According to the *Montana Almanac*, by authors Andrea Merrill and Judy Jacobson, the county was established in 1893 and the area was called 'the park between the mountains' by the Salish Indians.

According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, median income for Flathead County households in 1989 was \$24,145. The county is 5,256.6 square miles in area; 5,098.6 square miles in land area and 158.0 in inland water area.

County residents experience the four distinct seasons. According to the *Montana Almanac*, the average daily low in January between 1980 and 1989 was 13.7 degrees above zero. The average daily high in July was 80.6 and average January snowfall 18.0 inches. The annual precipitation in 1995 was 22.82 inches and the length of the growing season 105 days.

Top 20 Private Employers In Flathead County *Listed In Alphabetical Order*

Big Mountain Ski Resort
Brendan House
Buffalo Hill Terrace
Columbia Falls Aluminum
Costco
Glacier Bancorp
Grouse Mountain Lodge

Heritage Place
Kalispell Regional Medical Center
Labor Contractors Staffing Service
North Valley Hospital
Northwest Montana Human Resources
Outlaw Inn
Plum Creek Manufacturing

PTI Communications
Semitool Inc.
Stoltze Lumber
Tidyman's
Wal-Mart
Workplace Inc.

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Research & Analysis.

Fourth Quarter 1997 Unemployment Insurance Information.

This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to Unemployment Insurance. Railroads and city, county, state and federal government agencies (including public school districts and universities) are excluded.

Flathead County Population

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

Area	7/1/97 Estimate	7/1/96 Estimate	4/1/90 Census	% Change '90 to '97	% Change '90 to '96
Montana	878,810	876,684	799,065	10.0%	9.7%
Flathead County	71,707	70,988	59,218	21.1%	19.9%
Columbia Falls	Not Available	3,922	2,921	Not Available	34.3%
Kalispell	Not Available	15,678	11,917	Not Available	31.6%
Whitefish	Not Available	5,793	4,368	Not Available	32.6%

1997 New Businesses by Industry Flathead County

SIC Code*	Industry	# Of New Busi- nesses
17	Special Trade Contractors	36
15	General Building Contractors	22
73	Business Services	21
58	Eating & Drinking Places	20
65	Real Estate	16
59	Miscellaneous Retail Trade	13
79	Amusement & Recreation Services	13
50	Durable Goods-Wholesale Trade	12
83	Social Services	11
80	Health Services	11
57	Furniture & Home Furnishings	10
24	Lumber & Wood Products, Except Furniture	10
42	Trucking-Warehousing	10
86	Membership Organizations	9
88	Private Households	9
87	Engineering Services	9
75	Auto-Repair Services	7
7	Agricultural Services	6
51	Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	5
61	Nondepository Credit Institutions	5
64	Insurance Agents, Brokers, & Services	5
70	Hotels, Rooming Houses, Camps, & Other Lodging Places	5
54	Food Stores	4
72	Personal Services	4
81	Legal Services	4
99	Not Yet Classified	3
41	Railroad Transportation	3
35	Industrial & Commercial Machinery & Computer Equipment	3
76	Miscellaneous Repair Services	3
62	Security & Commodity Brokers, Dealers, Exchanges, & Services	3
39	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	2
25	Furniture & Fixtures	2
16	Heavy Construction other than Building Construction-Contractors	2
27	Printing, Publishing, & Allied Industries	2
47	Transportation Services	2
55	Auto Dealers-Gasoline Service Stations	2
56	Apparel & Accessory Stores	2
30	Rubber & Miscellaneous Plastics Products	1
52	Building Materials, Hardware, Garden Supply, & Mobile Home Dealers	1
34	Fabricated Metal Products, Except Machinery & Transportation Equipment	1
33	Primary Metal Industries	1
67	Holding & Other Investment Offices	1
10	Metal Mining	1
82	Educational Services	1
31	Leather & Leather Products	1
22	Textile Mill Products	1
89	Services, Not Elsewhere Classified	1
13	Oil & Gas Extraction	1
	TOTAL	317

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Research & Analysis.

*SIC Code: Standard Industrial Classification Code.

New businesses registered with the Unemployment Insurance Program.

Does not include businesses which had a change in ownership.

Annual Average Labor Force For Flathead County				
Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unem- ployed	Unem- ployment Rate
1970	14,209	13,209	1,000	7.0%
1971	14,623	13,612	1,011	6.9%
1972	15,832	14,697	1,135	7.2%
1973	16,673	15,505	1,168	7.0%
1974	17,714	16,073	1,641	9.3%
1975	17,742	15,925	1,817	10.2%
1976	19,013	17,281	1,732	9.1%
1977	21,124	19,282	1,842	8.7%
1978	22,930	21,114	1,816	7.9%
1979	23,469	21,925	1,544	6.6%
1980	23,339	21,408	1,931	8.3%
1981	24,131	21,695	2,436	10.1%
1982	24,637	21,453	3,184	12.9%
1983	26,518	23,726	2,792	10.5%
1984	28,973	26,724	2,249	7.8%
1985	29,937	27,413	2,524	8.4%
1986	29,554	26,910	2,644	8.9%
1987	29,567	27,126	2,441	8.3%
1988	29,703	27,076	2,627	8.8%
1989	30,564	28,232	2,332	7.6%
1990	30,299	28,010	2,289	7.6%
1991	31,029	28,179	2,850	9.2%
1992	32,590	29,872	2,718	8.3%
1993	34,522	32,014	2,508	7.3%
1994	35,725	33,322	2,403	6.7%
1995	35,837	32,919	2,918	8.1%
1996	36,762	34,074	2,688	7.3%
1997	37,623	34,849	2,774	7.4%

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Research & Analysis (1998 Benchmark).

Summary of Major Occupational Categories By Sex 1990 Census-Equal Employment Opportunity Data <i>Civilian Labor Force-All Persons</i>			
Occupation	Total	Male	Female
Total	27,750	15,275	12,475
Managerial and Professional Specialty Occupations	5,677	2,815	2,862
Executive, Administrative and Managerial Occupations	2,492	1,442	1,050
Professional Specialty Occupations	3,185	1,373	1,812
Technical, Sales and Administrative Support Occupations	7,927	2,518	5,409
Technicians and Related Support Occupations	699	346	353
Sales Occupations	3,447	1,769	1,678
Administrative Support Occupations, Including Clerical	3,781	403	3,378
Service Occupations	4,378	1,370	3,008
Private Household Occupations	121	6	115
Protective Service Occupations	327	287	40
Service Occupations, Except Protective and Household	3,930	1,077	2,853
Farming, Forestry, Fishing	1,342	1,147	195
Precision Production, Craft and Repair Occupations	3,238	3,086	152
Mechanics and Repairers	1,171	1,157	14
Construction Trade	1,320	1,280	40
Extractive Occupations	18	18	0
Precision Production Occupations	729	631	98
Operators, Fabricators and Laborers	5,049	4,290	759
Machine Operators, Assemblers and Inspectors	1,702	1,389	313
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	1,902	1,734	168
Handlers, Equipment Cleaners, Helpers and Laborers	1,445	1,167	278
Unemployed, No Recent Civilian Work Experience	139	49	90

Census and Economic Information Center, Montana Department of Commerce, Helena, MT 59820, 406-444-2896.

Resources

⇒ Chambers of Commerce:

Bigfork Chamber, P. O. Box 237, Bigfork, MT 59911, 406-837-5888
Columbia Falls Chamber, P. O. Box 312, Columbia Falls, MT 59912, 406-892-2072
Kalispell Chamber, 15 Depot Park, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-758-2800
Lakeside-Somers Chamber, P. O. Box 177, Lakeside, MT 59922, 406-844-3715
Westshore Chamber, 5557 Highway 93 S., Somers, MT 59932, 406-857-2042
Whitefish Chamber, P. O. Box 1120, Whitefish, MT 59937, 406-862-3501

⇒ Department of Labor and Industry

Flathead Job Service

427 1st Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-758-6200

Montana Department of Labor & Industry's Office of Research & Analysis Publications

For information on employment by industry, new businesses, labor market information, profile of the Montana worker, job projections to the year 2006 and hourly pay by occupation, contact the office at any of the numbers listed on the front of this publication or check out our Internet website at <http://jsd.dli.mt.gov/lmi/lmi.htm>

⇒ Housing Costs:

Northwest Montana Association of REALTORS®, 690 N. Meridian, Suite 105, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-752-4197

⇒ Internet:

Montana Job Service home page for job listings at <http://jsd.dli.mt.gov/>
Cities of Bigfork, Columbia Falls, Coram, Kalispell, Kila, Lakeside, Marion, Olney, Somers, West Glacier and Whitefish Home Pages—Use the Search Utilities on the Internet to find home pages for Montana cities.

⇒ Montana Motor Vehicle Division:

Drivers' Licensing

Kalispell—35 W. Reserve, 406-257-2127

⇒ Newspapers:

Bigfork Eagle, P. O. Box 406, Bigfork, MT 59911, 406-837-5131
Hungry Horse News, P. O. Box 189, Columbia Falls, MT 59912, 406-892-2151
Kalispell Daily Inter Lake, P. O. Box 7610, Kalispell, MT 59904, 406-755-7000
Whitefish Pilot, P. O. Box 488, Whitefish, MT 59937, 406-862-3505

⇒ Public Libraries:

Bigfork Branch Library, 521 Electric Ave., Bigfork, MT 59911-0472, 406-837-6976
Columbia Falls Branch Library, 130 6th St. W. #C, Columbia Falls, MT 59912-2009, 406-892-5919
Flathead County Library System, 247 1st Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901-4598, 406-758-5820

Marion Branch Library, 205 Gopher Lane, Marion, MT 59925-1048, 406-854-2333
Whitefish Branch Library, 406 E. 2nd Ave., Whitefish, MT 59937-2654, 406-862-6657

⇒ Postsecondary Education Institution:

Community College

Flathead Valley Community College, 777 Grandview Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-756-3822

⇒ Superintendent of Schools, Kindergarten through 12th Grade:

Bigfork Public Schools, P. O. Box 188, Bigfork, MT 59911, 406-837-7400
Cayuse Prairie Elementary, 897 Lake Blaine Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-756-4562
Columbia Falls Public Schools, P. O. Box 1259, Columbia Falls, MT 59912, 406-892-6550
Creston Elementary, 4495 Montana 35, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-755-2859
Deer Park Elementary, 2105 Middle Road, Columbia Falls, MT 59912, 406-892-5388
Evergreen Schools, 18 W. Evergreen Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-751-1111
Fair-Mont-Egan Schools, 797 Fairmont Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-756-6308
Helena Flats Schools, 1000 Helena Flats Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-257-2301
Kalispell Public Schools, 233 1st Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-756-5015
Kila Elementary, P. O. Box 40, Kila, MT 59920, 406-257-2428
Marion Elementary, 205 Gopher Lane, Marion, MT 59925, 406-854-2333
Olney-Bissell Elementary, 5955 Farm To Market Road, Whitefish, MT 59937, 406-862-2828
Pleasant Valley Elementary, 7975 Pleasant Valley Road, Marin, MT 59925, 406-858-2225
Smith Valley Elementary, 600 Batavia Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-756-4535
Somers Elementary, P. O. Box 159, Somers, MT 59932, 406-857-3661
Swan River Elementary, 1205 Swan Highway, Bigfork, MT 59911, 406-837-6179
West Glacier Elementary, P. O. Box 308, West Glacier, MT 59936, 406-387-5976
West Valley Elementary, 2290 Farm To Market Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-755-7239
Whitefish Public Schools, 600 E. 2nd St., Whitefish, MT 59937, 406-862-8640

Flathead County Employment By Industry* Annual Averages 1997									
Industry	# of Establish- ments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Paid	Industry	# of Establish- ments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Paid	Industry	# of Establish- ments
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	3,098	28,818	\$817,791,722	General Merchandise	12	858	\$13,819,0		
PRIVATE BUSINESS	2,981	24,738	\$510,519,707	Food Stores	67	953	\$13,702,5		
AGRI, FORESTRY, FISH	73	324	\$8,508,883	Auto Dealers-Service Stations	78	803	\$17,328,5		
Agri Production/Crops	8	72	\$1,122,900	Apparel & Accessories	41	182	\$1,688,0		
Agri Production/Livestock	4	28	\$488,005	Furniture Stores	74	352	\$7,456,0		
Agriculture Services	49	158	\$2,274,733	Eating & Drinking	226	2,629	\$24,189,5		
MINING	10	76	\$3,289,001	Miscellaneous Retail	168	899	\$9,057,9		
Mining & Quarry Nonmetal	8	68	\$2,837,214	FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE	288	1,238	\$30,974,4		
CDNSTRUCTION	437	1,570	\$40,185,879	Banking	28	511	\$12,193,9		
General Building	180	373	\$8,658,957	Credit Agencies	18	106	\$3,631,2		
Heavy Construction	31	315	\$11,058,108	Security & Commodity	18	39	\$2,333,9		
Special Trade	245	681	\$20,272,114	Insurance Carriers	17	96	\$2,670,0		
MANUFACTURING	195	4,202	\$132,268,343	Insurance Agents	42	118	\$3,327,2		
Food Products	11	111	\$2,434,659	Real Estate	138	336	\$5,148,8		
Apparel	3	17	\$228,086	Holding & Investments	7	28	\$1,771,1		
Lumber	97	1,708	\$59,407,474	SERVICES	997	6,248	\$149,767,8		
Furniture	4	30	\$410,332	Hotels & Lodging	75	972	\$11,020,9		
Printing-Publishing	21	247	\$4,752,907	Personel Services	61	222	\$2,540,9		
Chemicals	5	49	\$793,854	Business Services	122	1,369	\$20,109,0		
Rubber-Miscellaneous Plastic	3	20	\$486,885	Auto Repair Services	80	388	\$8,844,6		
Stone-Clay-Glass	8	78	\$2,494,882	Miscellaneous Repair Services	37	132	\$2,814,4		
Fabricated Metal	8	20	\$420,916	Motion Pictures	16	129	\$1,035,4		
Transportation Equipment	3	58	\$1,386,844	Amusement & Recreation	88	981	\$10,803,3		
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	10	84	\$923,904	Health Services	189	2,691	\$67,100,5		
TRANS., COMMUN., UTILITIES	158	1,102	\$29,778,315	Legal Services	58	145	\$5,305,8		
Local Transportation	12	34	\$261,234	Educational Services	11	138	\$1,783,8		
Trucking-Warehousing	77	379	\$9,277,572	Social Services	70	454	\$5,858,6		
Water Transportation	4	14	\$220,107	Museums, Zoos, Etc.	5	20	\$154,4		
Air Transportation	11	215	\$4,255,758	Membership Organizations	43	159	\$1,778,4		
Transport Services	16	83	\$1,098,018	Engineering Services	107	387	\$12,048,0		
Communication	21	238	\$7,582,020	Private Households	44	55	\$549,0		
Elec., Gas, Sanitation	14	166	\$7,083,808	Miscellaneous Services	9	20	\$440,0		
WHOLESALE TRADE	127	851	\$21,136,191	GOVERNMENT	118	4,082	\$107,272,1		
Durable Goods	60	373	\$10,433,547	State	16	487	\$11,903,1		
Nonurable Goods	47	477	\$10,702,844	Local	58	2,743	\$65,254,1		
RETAIL TRADE	711	7,120	\$98,570,589	Federal	44	840	\$30,113,3		
Bldg Materials-Garden	52	441	\$9,149,903						

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Research & Analysis. (Totals may not add due to rounding.)

*Employment Covered by Unemployment Insurance.

Per Capita Personal Income

	1970	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Montana	\$3,558	\$8,842	\$15,067	\$16,005	\$16,618	\$17,709	\$17,709	\$18,602	\$19,278
% of National Average	87%	88%	79%	81%	81%	83%	80%	80%	79%
Flathead County	\$3,425	\$9,119	\$15,586	\$16,428	\$17,330	\$18,371	\$18,453	\$19,158	\$19,972
% of National Average	84%	91%	81%	83%	84%	86%	83%	82%	82%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System. Released May 1998

PLEASE NOTE: Because of time and budget constraints, we are only able to update our county flyers periodically. Individual tables are updated on a more frequent basis. You can call us if you'd like the most current information for a particular county. The Annual Averages for County Employment By Industry are updated annually, usually in June. The Top Employers are updated annually. Per Capita Income statewide is usually released late spring and county data around August each year. Population data for Montana is usually released in March and county data may be released at a different time. The Annual Average Labor Force information is benchmarked annually and numbers available before March. The other tables contain Census information and will be updated every 10 years. You can also look for more current information on our website listed on the front of this publication.

500 copies of this flyer were printed at an estimated cost of \$50.30.

**1997 New Businesses by Industry
Flathead County**

SIC Code*	Industry	# Of New Busi- nesses
17	Special Trade Contractors	36
15	General Building Contractors	22
73	Business Services	21
58	Eating & Drinking Places	20
65	Real Estate	16
59	Miscellaneous Retail Trade	13
79	Amusement & Recreation Services	13
50	Durable Goods-Wholesale Trade	12
83	Social Services	11
80	Health Services	11
57	Furniture & Home Furnishings	10
24	Lumber & Wood Products, Except Furniture	10
42	Trucking-Warehousing	10
86	Membership Organizations	9
88	Private Households	9
87	Engineering Services	9
75	Auto-Repair Services	7
7	Agricultural Services	6
51	Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	5
61	Nondepository Credit Institutions	5
64	Insurance Agents, Brokers, & Services	5
70	Hotels, Rooming Houses, Camps, & Other Lodging Places	5
54	Food Stores	4
72	Personal Services	4
81	Legal Services	4
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35	Industrial & Commercial Machinery & Computer Equipment	3
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25	Furniture & Fixtures	2
16	Heavy Construction other than Building Construction-Contractors	2
27	Printing, Publishing, & Allied Industries	2
47	Transportation Services	2
55	Auto Dealers-Gasoline Service Stations	2
56	Apparel & Accessory Stores	2
30	Rubber & Miscellaneous Plastics Products	1
52	Building Materials, Hardware, Garden Supply, & Mobile Home Dealers	1
34	Fabricated Metal Products, Except Machinery & Transportation Equipment	1
33	Primary Metal Industries	1
67	Holding & Other Investment Offices	1
10	Metal Mining	1
82	Educational Services	1
31	Leather & Leather Products	1
22	Textile Mill Products	1
89	Services, Not Elsewhere Classified	1
13	Oil & Gas Extraction	1
	TOTAL	317

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Research & Analysis.

*SIC Code: Standard Industrial Classification Code.

New businesses registered with the Unemployment Insurance Program.

Does not include businesses which had a change in ownership.

Flathead County												
1990 Census of Population and Housing												
Persons by Age, Race and Sex												
Eskimo/Aleut/ Asian or Pacific												
School Age	White		Black		American Indian		Islander		Hispanic Origin		Other Race	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
5-11	6,869	3,291	10	5	131	65	30	11	109	47	22	11
12-14	2,788	1,344	5	2	57	27	13	9	48	14	7	1
15-17	2,551	1,226	3	1	35	18	8	5	40	14	9	5
18-21	2,248	1,078	5	2	50	20	13	7	30	21	7	4
Total	14,458	6,939	23	10	273	130	64	32	227	98	45	21
Eskimo/Aleut/ Asian or Pacific												
Working & Voting Age	White		Black		American Indian		Islander		Hispanic Origin		Other Race	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
16+	43,233	22,153	36	12	807	319	168	117	380	196	97	45
16-64	35,578	17,887	32	10	562	292	159	111	351	181	96	45
18+	41,600	21,359	33	11	582	304	163	114	352	187	91	43
18-64	33,943	17,093	29	9	537	277	154	108	323	172	90	43
Eskimo/Aleut/ Asian or Pacific												
Other Age Group	White		Black		American Indian		Islander		Hispanic Origin		Other Race	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
0-4	4,089	1,989	5	2	75	41	26	11	67	34	16	7
5-17	12,208	5,861	18	8	223	110	51	25	197	75	38	17
18-44	22,539	11,450	22	6	403	205	97	68	236	129	62	32
45-64	11,404	5,643	7	3	134	72	57	40	87	43	28	11
62+	9,124	5,011	5	2	55	33	14	11	39	21	5	1
65+	7,657	4,266	4	2	45	27	9	6	29	15	1	0
Total	57,897	29,209	58	21	880	455	240	150	616	296	145	67
Source: Census and Economic Information Center, Montana Department of Commerce, Helena, MT 59620, 406-444-2896.												

Source: Census and Economic Information Center, Montana Department of Commerce, Helena, MT 59620, 406-444-2896.

Flathead County			
County of Residence	# Who Work in Flathead County	County of Work	# Who Live in Flathead County
Out of State	73	Out of State	303
Cascade County	25	Cascade County	17
Flathead County	24,221	Flathead County	24,221
Glacier County	19	Gallatin County	24
Lake County	740	Glacier County	15
Lewis & Clark County	10	Hill County	31
Lincoln County	60	Lake County	72
Missoula County	28	Lincoln County	133
Ravalli County	20	Missoula County	56
Sanders County	11	Ravalli County	17
Other Montana Counties	40	Sanders County	18
		Other Montana Counties	51

Source 1990 Census Data provided by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.